Among other initiatives, CSIR organises periodic get-togethers with user industry to make known its R&D and infrastructural capabilities. In addition, the laboratories publicise the expertise in their specific areas through publications, workshops, seminars and open days etc. for entrepreneurs. The strength of the ongoing linkages between the CSIR and industry is borne out by the fact that many of the major CSIR technologies in use by industry have been developed through collaborative/sponsored R&D programmes.

To further strengthen its linkage with industry, CSIR has initiated machanisms for interaction with industry organisations like FICCI, Confederation of Engineering Industries (CEI) etc.

Efficacy trial of birth control vaccine

802. KUMARI ALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Birth Control Vaccine for women has been developed by the Scientists of National Institute of Immunology;

(b) if so, whether Government have permitted for its efficacy trials; and

(c) if so, the number of women who have gone for trials so far and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Yes, Madam. Based on the successful completion of the Phase I trials in female human volunteers, the Drug Controller of India granted permission to start Phase II efficacy trials.

(c) A total of 110 women volunteers of proven fertility have been enrolled for trials. Till date, a total of 490 menstrual cycles have been recorded without any pregnancy.

Overestimation of India's contribution to green house gases

803. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a study by CSIR U.S. environmental protection agency has overestimated India's contribution to green house gases that are warming the earth; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) According to the preliminary studies made by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), it is found that values for carbon dioxide emissions in India are lower by 16 per cent and that of methane emissions lower by 33 per cent in case of live stock and lower by 92 per cent in case of rice paddies as compared to the estimates of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. These variations are mainly due to uncertainties in measurements in India and elsewhere which vary over different geographical conditions.

12.00 NOON

(The Deputy Chairman in the Chair)